

Our Own Literary Digest

Quite explosive was the outburst of feeling in this country when the agitation began to deny the soldiers the use of tobacco; and, of course, the antidryers seized the occasion to push forward their contention that from the prohibition of liquors reformers would logically proceed to the interdiction of any indulgence not strictly necessary to preserve the health and bodily vigor of the people.

From the press, the antinicotinic element got no encouragement at all, at least we have been unable to find any, and as if to emphasize its attitude on the freedom of smoke, many newspapers organized bureaus to raise money for sending cigars, cigarettes and plug tobacco to the soldiers.

The front of the protest against tobacco it appears has been the Nonsmokers' Protective League of America, which, through its president, addressed an open letter to President Wilson protesting against giving tobacco in any form to American soldiers and praying that the cultivation of tobacco be prohibited because the land should produce food.

On this the Mobile Register remarked: "We dare say that Mr. Pease, the president aforesaid, thinks that the country better not be saved if the saviors are led into the perdition of tobacco chewing and smoking. He speaks of even the supplying of tobacco as a crime. That is going a considerable distance in a doubtful direction; for a crime is an infraction of the law; and we know of no law that forbids us to give tobacco to a soldier. Neither is it a crime for a soldier to use tobacco. Looks like some people are getting foolish in their anxiety for the welfare of the race."

But the Nonsmokers' League was not without support. Individuals and certain organizations endorsed the proposition to keep tobacco out of the army, and in the Chamberlain bill that was introduced in Congress there was a prohibitory clause which was afterward eliminated. Pertinent to this the Seattle Post-Intelligencer said: "The man responsible for the 'joker' in the Chamberlain bill, prohibiting the sale or even the possession of tobacco at any army post or other place where army and navy men were assembled, had no purpose in his mind to encourage recruiting, whatever other purpose he had in view; and the Montgomery Advertiser in like manner expressed its views: 'There is a clause in the Chamberlain inscription bill prohibiting the use of cigarettes by the conscript. Of all outrageous proposals of twelve months this stands pre-eminent as the most reprehensible and senseless.'"

The rejection of the antitobacco clause in the Chamberlain bill did not end the controversy and arguments are still going on about fostering the evil of nicotine. Says the Houston Post: "An Indiana reformer wants to deprive the soldiers of tobacco. As we have often remarked, the great trouble about the reformer is, he is overloaded with good intentions and under-supplied with common sense." In the Toledo Blade we find: "There is a movement on foot to abolish plug tobacco. Going to try to torpedo the world's greatest navy; and the Chicago News adds, 'In the proposal to take away the soldiers' tobacco, behold the inspired chucklehead'; following this with the remark, 'If our soldiers and sailors feel the need of relaxing in wild dissipation they may chew gum.'"

The Philadelphia Inquirer seeks to point out that "those women who object to sending cigarettes to the boys in France would deny our sons over there the comforts their fathers have at home." B. L. T., the column writer of the Chicago Tribune, reveals another phase of the matter. He says, "When one has chatted with a gentlemanly soldier who lost both legs in the gentle art of bombing a German dugout, one is likely to be impatient with the earnest persons who wish to deprive the soldier of his cigarette."

The Kansas City Star tells of "an Eastern college professor who urges that the 1,300,000 acres now devoted to the tobacco industry be planted in grain," and comments: "It is assumed that this professor does not smoke. If he did, he might suggest some disposition of the remaining 400,000,000 acres of American soil which does not produce anything as useful as tobacco." On this point we quote the Louisville Courier-Journal: "The Courier-Journal does not know how much land which would produce large quantities of food is planted to tobacco. The prohibitionists have not been making figures on that acreage. It is, at any rate, large. Very probably the prohibitionists are not as inconsistent as they seem. They may get around to tobacco in time. It is a matter of record that some of them have said they would tackle Lady Nicotine after having walloped John Barleycorn. Everything in its time and turn."

RELIGIOUS EDITOR PAYS TRIBUTE TO NEWSPAPERS

Chicago.—"Great daily newspapers are in sympathy with every humanitarian effort and experience has taught me that almost every editor is willing to give publicity to any effort that is for the public good," said John T. B. Smith, editor of the Veteran Preacher, speaking before the conference and board representatives of the conference claimants' endowment fund of the Methodist Episcopal church in Hotel La Salle here.

He also paid tribute to the press for its fairness in dealing with religious news. He said newspapers are "next to the pulpit as a medium of publicity." He added:

"One of the greatest reasons for the church's using the press is that it not only reaches churchgoers but people who, though they are not churchmen, are interested in the public weal. The church should advertise itself, pay for information printed, and also give news. Paid advertisements as well as news are requisite to the best success in church matters."

Embargoed

Exports from the United States, under the Executive order issued on Monday, are not to be prohibited, but they are to be controlled, and more closely than at any time since the beginning of August, 1914. For nearly two years and a half, or up to April 2, 1917, the interest of the United States in the control of shipments of foodstuffs and other merchandise from this country to other lands was simply that of a neutral. As a neutral, the United States was more concerned in the assertion of its own rights to freedom of the seas than in supporting the embargo against the Central Powers which had been established by Great Britain and France. It will easily be recalled, by those who have followed the course of the war, that, while the sympathies of the people of the United States, from the beginning, were manifestly with the Allies, their government, in the assertion and maintenance of a neutral attitude, was on several occasions, drawn into sharp disputes with the government of Great Britain regarding what the former claimed were unjust seizures of American ships and cargoes destined for other neutral ports.

The position was always taken by Washington that the commerce of the United States, a neutral, with other neutral countries should not be interfered with by Great Britain, or in any way interrupted. In the latter part of 1914 and during 1915 many United States and other neutral vessels were detained by the British Admiralty in the effort to exclude foodstuffs and munitions from Germany. British cruisers diverted from their course the United States and other neutral flags, and this gave rise to much serious diplomatic correspondence between Mr. Bryan and the British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Sir Edward Grey. The controversy, in fact, was continued by Secretary Lansing after the resignation of Mr. Bryan, and on both sides various questions were raised which will doubtless come up for settlement in the general readjustment of things, and the general reframing of international law, after the return of peace.

But when the United States was forced to become a participant in the great struggle, its interests in preventing the admission into Germany and countries allied with it of foodstuffs and other merchandise became quite as keen as that of Great Britain and France. The actual work of keeping out contraband, however, had to be left to those nations for the time being, to Great Britain in particular, and, strange as it may appear, the United States, from the beginning of April to the issuance of the Executive order of Monday, has been making the problem more rather than less difficult for its principal maritime allies. That is, United States exporters have been selling goods, foods, and merchandise, to nations which have been accounted strictly neutral or friendly, while these nations have been passing the goods which they have imported from America to the Central Empires and their allies. The Scandinavian countries, Holland, and even Italy, have been made avenues for the transit of contraband to the enemy. A thoroughly organized system for overcoming the British blockade has been in operation all along. Commodities which the allied nations and the United States were most desirous of keeping out of Germany, Austria, Bulgaria, and Turkey have found their way into those countries through the countries mentioned. As a means to putting a stop to all this, the United States, instead of joining Great Britain and France in the blockade, has determined to exercise control over exports.

Cotton, in great quantities, has found its way into Germany and Austria, and has been used for the making of high explosives against which the soldiers of the Allies now, and the soldiers of the United States later on, may be compelled to stand. No cotton will go forth from the United States hereafter, save under a license that can be obtained only on the most stringent and satisfactory conditions. Regulation of exportation of the raw staple lies with the United States principally; regulation of exportation of the manufactured article will lie with Great Britain and France. The list of articles interdicted for export, save under the license system now established, covers practically all of the export commodities of the United States. The President makes it clear that it is not the intention to interfere unnecessarily with the external commerce of the country, "but," he adds, "our own domestic needs must be adequately safeguarded, and there is the added duty of meeting the necessities of all the nations at war with the Imperial German Government. After these needs are met, it is our wish and intention to minister to the needs of the neutral nations as far as our resources permit. This task will be discharged without other than the very proper qualification that the liberation of our surplus products shall not be made the occasion of benefit to the enemy, either directly or indirectly."

As this embargo tightens, we shall probably hear much complaint from the neutral nations that have been acting as intermediaries of Germany and its allies. Their protests are likely to be loud, ringing and long continued. It must be remembered, however, that whatever hardship they may be called upon to suffer they have brought upon themselves. And it must also be remembered that, were it not for the persistent violation of neutrality by those neutrals, the war would be much nearer its close than it is today. It is to hasten the end of the war that the embargo has been forged.—Christian Science Monitor.

A JOKE DREAM

At midnight, in his guarded tent, The Hun lay dreaming of the hour When all the world, from pole to pole, Would tremble at his power. An hour passed on, as hours will, The sleeping Hun awoke, And then he ran away from there—His dream had been some joke. —New York Telegraph.

Democracy's Duty to Its Defenders

The plan for furnishing our soldiers and sailors life and indemnity insurance and allowances to dependent families, embodied in a bill now pending in Congress, seems to meet with the cordial appreciation of the people and the press of the country. Some extracts from editorials in various papers follow:

The Philadelphia Public Ledger: "When we draft the wage earner, says Secretary McAdoo, 'we call not only him but the entire family to the flag.' This is the fundamental argument for the war insurance bill now before Congress. It is the absence of any provision for those left behind which leads so many who would gladly give themselves to their country to ask exemption."

"When military service is obligatory other things are obligatory, too. 'The national conscience,' as the Secretary puts it, 'will not permit America's soldiers and their dependents to go unprovided with everything that is just, generous and noble people can do to compensate them for the sufferings and the sacrifices' exacted from them. That has never been the American way."

"The aim of the war insurance bill is to do justice to the soldiers without doing injustice to the taxpayers."

Under the title that heads this article the New York Times says:

"Not a dollar of the billions given to the deserving is regretted. If the proposed plan shall secure that only the deserving shall be carried upon the country's resources, even billions would be paid and leave still a debt unpaid. There can be no real money indemnity for death or disability. The feeling of duty done and appreciated by countrymen is all that can be offered against such suffering."

The New York World calls army insurance "A square deal for our fighting men," and comments:

"What the chief industrial States are doing in insurance and compensation of workers in peace the Federal government now proposes to do with its fighting men in war. No one could know what the old pension system would cost as applied to this war. Under this plan the cost will be known as we go along. Evenhanded justice will be assured. Political and personal favor will go for nothing. There should be no doubt of its adoption."

The Richmond Times-Dispatch indorses the plan: "Since the government has benevolently insured ships and cargoes, seamen and pilots engaged in perilous war enterprises, it seems eminently proper that officers and men of the army and navy, who run immeasurably greater risks, should be generously indemnified in case of maiming or death. The proposed legislation is designed as a substitute for postwar pensions, a circumstance which further commends it to us."

The Atlanta Journal's closing paragraph of an editorial commending the plan is as follows:

"The needs anticipated by the bill are so numerous and the mantle of protection which it would throw about the country's defenders and their families is so broad that only an extensive review could do it justice, but its great principles really need no commendation. They speak for themselves, and they will appeal, we feel sure, to the mind and heart of Congress as they do to the mind and heart of the country. This deeply important measure, so typical of the government's solicitude for the men it calls to the colors, should be pressed promptly to enactment."

To this must be added the indorsement of Col. Roosevelt:

"It puts the United States where it ought to be, as standing in the forefront among the nations in doing justice to our defenders."

WE MUST FINISH THE WORK

"With the first installment of the Liberty Loan completed, immensely gratifying as is the result, we must remember that the financing of a great war is never completed until the war is finished; and we are going to finish this war to our satisfaction in order that America may not be finished. We must stay on the job and do it in true American fashion. We have proved ourselves on the first test; we must be prepared for the second, the third, and the fourth if need be."

"This war must be fought to a finish. It must be so fought, because there is an irrepressible conflict between two irreconcilable principles and systems of organized society that never will be settled until it is fought to a finish. The world can no longer survive half democratic and half autocratic. One or the other must triumph. We are confronted today with an analogous situation to that which confronted this nation in 1861, when the immortal Lincoln said, 'This Nation can no longer endure half slave and half free.' We had to fight that irreconcilable issue to a conclusion, and we fought it to a right conclusion. We vindicated freedom in America; we obliterated slavery from the free soil of this great nation. That is what we have got to do for the entire world—destroy despotism, which is another form of slavery, and make liberty supreme. In no other way can the world be made safe for democracy. It is a noble ideal; it is the only kind of an ideal for which a great republic like ours, a republic of freedom, could or would fight."—William G. McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury.

People Speak Well of Chamberlain's Tablets.

"I have been selling Chamberlain's Tablets for about two years and heard such good reports from my customers that I concluded to give them a trial myself, and can say that I do not believe there is another preparation of the kind equal to them," writes G. A. McBride, Headford, Ont. "If you are troubled with indigestion or constipation give them a trial. They will do you good. Obtainable everywhere." (adv.)

Our Debt to France

What is our debt to France? Let us glance back to those dark days of 1776, that tried men's souls. Some think the Declaration of Independence established our independence, forgetting the years which followed, when our tottering cause made even Washington despair.

Prior to the Declaration, France had sent over a million dollars to aid us, and in October, 1776, our three commissioners were sent to France to plead for us. Benjamin Franklin's negotiations soon brought forth fruit and it was agreed that France should furnish us two million livres a year; and three ships laden with military stores were dispatched to assist us.

Then, though the government of France was not prepared to send us troops, volunteers were not wanting, who cast their lot in with the cause of liberty. Lafayette, though but nineteen years of age, bought and fitted out a vessel, sailing in April, 1777. From this time on, numerous individuals in France contributed large sums of money, among them the beautiful Duchess of Orleans, who gave to John Paul Jones at one time \$47,000 to fit out the "Bon Home Richard," donating it, she said, "to the great cause of which he was the ablest and bravest champion of the sea."

The arrival of Lafayette, as a moment of grave perplexity for Washington, brought cheer and inspiration. Washington welcomed almost as a son the modest Frenchman, who said: "I am here to learn and not to teach," and who during the next two years rendered such brilliant military service, returning to France in 1779 to secure for us the help he saw that we must have. He urged the immediate sending of 12,000 troops, and of the necessary fleet, and in April, 1780, he returned to America announcing the success of his mission.

This good news came in times of deepest gloom when even the valiant spirit of Washington was almost vanquished. The army was freezing, starving and without money or clothes. The soldiers without shoes left bloody foot-prints behind them as they marched. The finances were in a most deplorable condition and paper currency was truly not worth a "Continental." Indian corn sold in Boston for \$150 a bushel, butter for \$12 a pound; a barrel of flour cost \$1,575, and Samuel Adams paid \$2,000 for a suit of clothes; it took ten paper dollars to make one cent. And Washington declared a wagon load of money was needed to buy a wagon load of food. It was then that the glorious tidings came, France would send men and ships and food. There was indeed rejoicing when in July, seven ships and three frigates arrived in Newport bringing 6,000 men under Count Rochambeau, with news of reinforcements to come. And so the year of 1780, which had witnessed the annihilation of two armies, the bankruptcy of Congress, the spread of treason and mutiny, brought a great hope from France. And the announcement of the French Alliance placed us before all Europe as an acknowledged independent nation.

Daily the debt to France increased as the end of the conflict approached. At Yorktown, Lafayette, with only 30,000 troops, skillfully maneuvered his "inferior" force until Cornwallis, who had come out to "crush the boy" thought it wise to retreat to his base of operations by the sea, where presently "the boy" held him at bay. Meanwhile, with keen expectancy Washington awaited for news of the arrival of the French fleet commanded by de Grasse—twenty-end ships, six frigates carrying 1,700 guns and 20,000 men. And when the glorious news that they had come gladdened the heart of Washington, he, with 2,000 Continentals, accompanied by Rochambeau with 4,000 Frenchmen, began a march, the destination of which was known to only these two commanders. On August 31, the great French squadron was on the scene having gained a decisive victory over Admiral Graves, and taken full possession of the Virginia waters, with 700 men killed or wounded in the engagement.

And now, while the French held the sea, 3,000 of their troops were sent ashore under the Marquis Saint Simon, which by reinforcing Lafayette enabled him to take his stand across the peninsula at Williamsburg, thus cutting off Cornwallis from possible retreat. So for six days the Frenchmen held Cornwallis until the arrival of Washington and Rochambeau with the additional 4,000 Frenchmen. It was a victory for France as well as America, when on October 19th, the enemy surrendered.

It was a day of happy omen not only for the United States and for France but for Great Britain as well for it meant the fall of the corrupt and shameful government of George III, and the birth of a new England, that of William III, Walpole, Pitt, Chatham, and Gladstone. And when years after, Lafayette said to Napoleon that "the American Revolution was the greatest event in the history of the world," he realized that a decisive battle for freedom had been won.

Could we compute the interest upon the money which France bestowed, it would immeasurably exceed our powers of calculation, and if we estimate the debt in men we have the statement of the Prince de Joinville, that "France, in the war of the Revolution lost 35,000 men and twenty-five ships, a loss not all on this side of the water but all resulting from the American Alliance."

The debt to France is more than we can ever pay because it is the price of our great National Existence, but we can do our best to pay at least a fraction of the debt which made us free.—Exchange.

Great Faith in Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy.

"Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy was used by my father about a year ago when he had diarrhoea. It relieved him immediately and by taking three doses he was absolutely cured. He has great faith in this remedy," writes Mrs. W. H. Williams, Stanley, N. Y. Obtainable everywhere. (adv.)

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PHONE 53

Comparison of Soldiers' Pay

The following table shows the yearly pay of United States army officers and soldiers in comparison with that in European countries:

	United States	Great Britain	France	Germany
Major General	\$8,000	\$6,326	\$3,648	\$3,223
Brigadier General	6,000	4,866	2,432	2,441
Colonel	4,000	2,098	1,744	2,162
Lieutenant Colonel	3,500	1,599	1,271	2,156
Major	3,000	1,421	1,063	1,500
Captain	2,400	1,029	676	1,096
First Lieutenant	2,000	677	486	450
Second Lieutenant	1,700	466	452	367
Sergeant	456	203	83	115
Corporal	432	146	31	85
Private	350	89	20	38

First-class sergeants in the United States army receive \$51 monthly.

"In the United States pay is increased with each enlistment to the seventh. Enlisted men may retire on 30 years' service with 75 per cent of pay and allowances."

In the British army and many others the grade of brigadier general is not a permanent grade, but is temporary and ex officio only.

American officers below the rank of brigadier general receive 10 per cent on the yearly pay of the grade for each term of five years' service, not to exceed 40 per cent in all.

Retired American officers receive 75 per cent of the pay of their grade (salary and increase).

The maximum pay of an American colonel is \$5,000; lieutenant colonel, \$4,500; major, \$4,000.

Ten per cent increase is allowed on pay of all officers serving outside the United States, except in Canal Zone, Panama, Porto Rico or Hawaii.

The United States and Great Britain are the only countries having volunteer armies, and the United States the only one having a thorough democratic army in which both officers and men are drawn from all walks of life, and which, therefore, has to offer monetary inducements in competition with the wages of labor.

Figures given are nearest the dollar. The base pay in all armies is increased for length of service by percentage similar in all. In European armies officers receive extensive allowances in addition to the pay. The laws and regulations in the different countries about pay and allowances are so voluminous and cover so many varying conditions that a simple comparison of the amounts received either in pay or allowances is very difficult. The table gives, however, approximately the minimum pay for the grade.

AMERICA'S CAUSE FOR WAR

"The new German policy swept every restriction aside. Vessels of every kind, whatever their flag, their character, their cargo, their destination, their errand, have been ruthlessly sent to the bottom without warning and without thought of help or mercy for those on board, the vessels of friendly neutrals along with those of belligerents. Even hospital ships and ships carrying relief to the sorely bereaved and stricken people of Belgium, though the latter were provided with safe conduct through the proscribed areas by the German government itself and were distinguished by

unmistakable marks of identity, have been sunk with the same reckless lack of compassion or of principle."

"I am not now thinking of the loss of property involved, immense and serious as that is, but only of the wanton and wholesale destruction of the lives of noncombatants, men, women and children, engaged in pursuits which have always, even in the darkest periods of darkest history, been deemed innocent and legitimate. Property can be paid for; the lives of peaceful and innocent people cannot be. The present German submarine warfare against commerce is a warfare against mankind."—Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States.

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